



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Board of Public Utilities
Two Gateway Center
Newark, NJ 07102
www.bpu.state.nj.us

Customer Assistance

Brian E. Dudley,

Petitioner,

v.

Verizon New Jersey, Inc.

Respondent

)
)
)
)
)
)
)

ORDER ADOPTING
INITIAL DECISION

BPU Docket No. TC02040228U
OAL Docket No. PUC 7427-02N

(SERVICE LIST ATTACHED)

BY THE BOARD:

On April 5, 2002, Brian E. Dudley (Petitioner) filed a petition with the Board of Public Utilities (Board), alleging that Verizon New Jersey, Inc. (Respondent) mistakenly billed him in the amount of \$1,729.33. On July 25, 2002, the Respondent filed an answer requesting that the petition be dismissed.

On August 21, 2002, the Board transmitted this matter to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for determination and initial disposition as a contested case pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq. and N.J.S.A. 52:14F-1 et seq. The matter was assigned to Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Elinor R. Reiner.

During the pendency of this matter at the OAL, the parties engaged in negotiations and executed a Stipulation of Settlement. The settlement was submitted to the ALJ for review. On November 26, 2002, ALJ Reiner filed her Initial Decision with the Board, recommending that the settlement be approved. The ALJ found the settlement to be voluntary, consistent with the law and fully dispositive of all issues in controversy. The ALJ therefore concluded that the settlement met the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1.

The settlement provides that Respondent will pay Petitioner the sum of \$830.76, reflecting reissuance of an earlier check for \$680.76 that Petitioner had returned to Respondent plus an

additional \$150.00. Respondent will also provide Petitioner a statement indicating that there are no outstanding charges associated with the account at issue.

After review, the Board FINDS that the terms of the settlement are fair and reasonable. Therefore, the Board HEREBY ADOPTS the Initial Decision and Stipulation of Settlement in their entirety, incorporating the terms thereof into this final decision as if fully set forth at length herein.

DATED: 1/13/03

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
BY:

SIGNED

JEANNE M. FOX
PRESIDENT

SIGNED

FREDERICK F. BUTLER
COMMISSIONER

SIGNED

CAROL J. MURPHY
COMMISSIONER

SIGNED

CONNIE O. HUGHES
COMMISSIONER

JACK ALTER
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

SIGNED

KRISTI IZZO
SECRETARY

Brian E. Dudley v. Verizon New Jersey, Inc.

BPU Dkt. No. TC02040228U
OAL Dkt. No. PUC 7427-02N

SERVICE LIST

Brian E. Dudley
85 Van Reypen St.
Jersey City, NJ 07307

Bruce D. Cohen, Esq.
Vice President and General Counsel
Verizon New Jersey, Inc.
540 Broad Street, 20th Floor
Newark, NJ 07102

Kent Papsun, Director
Division of Customer Assistance
Board of Public Utilities
Two Gateway Center
Newark, NJ 07102

Jeff Slutzky, Esq.
Division of Law
124 Halsey St. - 5th Floor
Newark, NJ 07102